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Faculty Senate

1966

Report of the Committee on Academic Standards (addendum) and providing for establishment of an "Intellectual Opportunity Plan", under which a student may elect with certain stipulations (as amended) a maximum of six courses with a grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory)

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

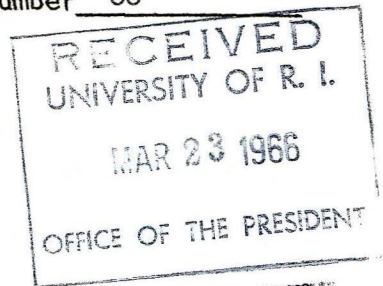
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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
FACULTY SENATE

BILLAdopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Francis H. Horn

FROM: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

1. The Attached BILL, titled Report of the Committee on Academic Standards (addendum) and providing for establishment of an "Intellectual Opportunity Plan", under which a student may elect with certain stipulations (as amended) a maximum of six courses with a grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory),

is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.
3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on March 17, 1966 (date).
4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Trustees, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
5. In accordance with Section 8, paragraph 2 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on September, 1966* (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Trustees for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Trustees, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

March 23, 1966
(date)

Elizabeth W. Randall /s/
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

*see exception 1

ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

1. Returned.
2. Approved X. Disapproved _____.
3. (If approved) In my opinion, transmittal to the Board of Trustees is not necessary.

Mar 24, 1966
(date)

Francis H. Horn /s/
President

ALTERNATE ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded.

2. Approved.

(date)

President

/s/

ENDORSEMENT 2.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Chairman of the Board of Trustees, via the University President.

1. Forwarded.

(date)

(Office)

/s/

ENDORSEMENT 3.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

(date)

President

/s/

Original received and forwarded to the Secretary of the Senate and Registrar
for filing in the Archives of the University.

(date)

Chairman of the Faculty Senate

/s/

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE

March 11, 1966

Addition to the Faculty Senate Agenda for the March 17, 1966 meeting.

Addendum to the Report of the Academic Standards Committee dated March 4, 1966

The Academic Standards Committee recommends establishment of a plan that will enable students to increase their intellectual breadth and discover their aptitudes in areas of knowledge new to them in a manner that will not be detrimental to their quality point averages. The committee also wishes to maintain the integrity of the required curriculums of the several colleges of the University within the plan. A possible descriptive phrase for the plan might be, "The Intellectual Opportunity Plan." *If approved, the plan will be implemented in September, 1966.*

Our recommendations result from a study of the proposal for a Pass or Fail Option Plan proposed by the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences.

We recommend the following regulations as a framework within which the plan may operate:

1. With the exception of freshmen, *and students on probation,* all matriculated undergraduate students at the University of Rhode Island and the ~~University's Division Extension division~~ *of University* may participate.
2. ~~Students who are on probation may not participate in the plan.~~
3. A student may elect one course in a semester or calendar summer under the conditions of this plan; *in no case may more than six courses be elected under this plan.*
4. A student satisfactorily completing a course under the regulations of the plan will receive a grade of S (satisfactory); unsatisfactory completion of a course will result in the student receiving the U grade (unsatisfactory).
5. A student receiving the S grade will receive credit toward fulfillment of degree requirements, but the grade of S will not be used in calculating the student's QPA.

~~5-6.~~ A student receiving the U grade will receive no credit toward degree requirements and must include the U (which is equivalent to the F or failing grade) in calculation of his QPA.

6 ~~7.~~ Courses that are stipulated in the student's curriculum as degree requirements cannot be taken for S/U credit. The intellectual opportunity plan pertains only to those courses that are considered as free, unattached electives, by the college in which the student is enrolled. *(EXCEPTING MILITARY SCIENCE)* A college may, however, by a vote of the college faculty, permit other courses to come under this plan for students enrolled in that college. This vote must be confirmed by the Senate via the CCA.

7 ~~8.~~ A student choosing to take a course for S/U credit must have his advisor's approval and inform the Registrar's Office of his intention to do so, in writing, prior to the end of the add period of each semester. A student may not exercise this option after this time.

Comment:

The Academic Standards Committee in its study of the P/F option plan as drafted by the Dean's Advisory Committee of the College of Arts and Sciences agreed with the basic philosophy of the plan and its design as a means to encourage "learning" by permitting students to explore new disciplines without jeopardizing their QPA.

To quote from the P/F plan submitted by the College of Arts and Sciences: "The grading system discourages students from sampling courses from a wider range of intellectual disciplines outside his own area of specialization and tends to militate against intellectual breadth."

The committee is in favor of a system that allows students to try new disciplines without endangering their academic records, but believes caution is advised to avoid misuse of the privileges such a system provides.

In accord with the above, the committee has deliberately limited the plan to those courses considered as free, unattached electives by the colleges in which the student is enrolled. This stipulation does not interfere with the intent of the plan but hopefully guards against abuse.

J. Kupa, Chairman
J. Corless
F. Drew
H. Farnum
E. Farrell
W. Smith
F. Wood